I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Depressed Classes

Amelioration of the condition of depressed classes working in plantations.

* 352 Q.—Mr. A. B SHETTY : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have at any time received any report from the Labour Officer in South Kanara regarding the large number of Adi-Dravida men, women and children who go to work in the coffee plantations of Coorg and Mysore and the ways in which they suffer from malaria and become indebted to the recruiting agents;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Adi-Dravida population in South Kanara is becoming reduced in numbers and if so, what it is due to; and

(c) whether the Labour Department is doing anything to ameliorate the condition of these people who suffer physically and economically by going to the ghats for work?

A.—(a) & (c) In the Administration Report of the Labour Department for 1927–28 it is stated that a large number of Adi-Dravidas in the district go to the plantations every year. The Government have received no report that they suffer from malaria or fall into debt.

(b) The Government have no information.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government will call for information regarding the condition of the Adi-Dravidas who go to these plantations, with reference to clause (b) of my question?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"The suggestion of the hon. Member will be considered."

Public Service

Improvement in pay and prospects in various departments.

* 353 Q.—Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the improvement in pay or prospects or both that has been effected since 1st April 1929 with the names of the departments and the cadres of service in which such improvement has been newly effected; and

(b) the financial effects of the improvement?

A.—(a) & (b) A statement is appended.[a] The statement does not include isolated posts created or small additions to the cadres of an existing service on the sanctioned scales of pay not materially affecting the pay or prospects of the services as a whole.

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"May I know, Sir, the reason why in the case of the police sergeants there is such an addition to the number and the pay has enormously increased as shown in the appendix?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—"The question should be addressed to the hon. the Home Member, Sir."

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 672–674 infra.